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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/755,961
Filing Date	01/12/2004
First Named Inventor	Fumiaki Kato, et al.
Art Unit	3753
Examiner Name	Ljiljana V. Ciric
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number 4041K-000166

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Receipt Postcard
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Remarks

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name	Michael J. Schmidt	Reg. No.	34,007
Signature					
Date	May 11, 2006				

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Michael J. Schmidt	Express Mail Label No.	EV 853 856 295 US (5/11/2006)
Signature		Date	May 11, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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EV 853 856 295 US



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/755,961
Filing Date: 01/12/2004
Applicant: Fumiaki Kato, et al.
Group Art Unit: 3753
Examiner: Ljiljana V. Ciric
Title: HEATER PIPE
Confirmation No.: 2998
Attorney Docket: 4041K-000166

Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 1, 2006, Paper No./Mail Date
04282006, please consider the following.

The Examiner has required an election of species pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121 to
one of the following patentably distinct species:

- I. The species principally illustrated in Figures 1-5;
- II. The species principally illustrated in Figure 6;
- III. The species principally illustrated in Figure 7;
- IV. The species principally illustrated in Figure 8;

V. The species principally illustrated in Figures 9-11.

Applicants, without traverse, respectfully request the Examiner to proceed with Species I principally illustrated in Figures 1-5. Applicants believe that Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 11-14 read on the elected species. Applicants request that the non-elected Claims be held in abeyance for possible rejoinder and/or further prosecution in future divisional and/or continuation applications.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this Response is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 11, 2006
HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
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Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303
(248) 641-1600

By: 

Michael J. Schmidt
Reg. No. 34,007

MJS/pmg